(b) if so, the reasons for not releasing Rs. 90 crore under Gopalamitra Scheme; and

(c) the action proposed to release the funds allocated, at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no Centrally Sponsored Scheme in the name of either Andhra Pradesh Livestock Development Agency or Gopalamitra. However, Andhra Pradesh Livestock Development Agency (APLDA) is the nominated State Implementing Agency (SIA) in Andhra Pradesh for implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB)". A proposal of APLDA under NPCBB, which has a component of introduction of Gopalamitra will be considered in a meeting of the Expenditure Finance Committee in March, 2002.

Drought-relief works in Orissa and Rajasthan

2079. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 168, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st March, 2002 and state:

(a) the number of districts in Rajasthan and Orissa declared as drought affected during 2000- 2002;

(b) the amount of additional grant sought for each year by the State Governments to take up drought-relief work, State-wise; and

(c) the reasons for not sanctioning the sought amount in full to above mentioned States, to tackle the drought effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) 28 out of 30 districts in Orissa and 31 out of 32 districts in Rajasthan were declared by the State Governments as drought affected during 2000-01. Both the State Governments have not reported any drought situation during 2001-02.

(b) and (c) In addition to release of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund, assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) of Rs. 49.62 crore (against Rs. 443.95 crore sought) to Orissa and Rs. 163.97 crore (against Rs. 2367.80 crore sought) to Rajasthan were released on the basis of approval by the High Level Committee of Ministers, taking into account the requirement projected by the State Governments and keeping in view the items and

norms for assistance from the NCCF. The other assistance provided by the Government of India include free transportation of drinking water & fodder by the Railways, allocation of foodgrains free of cost under Food For Work Programme (FFWP), handing over of exploratory tube-wells for drinking water purposes and relaxation in norms under schemes implemented by Department of Drinking Water Supply.

Impact of China's membership of WTO on Indian Agriculture

†2080. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian agricultural production and marketing is likely to be affected by China joining the World Trade Organization; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the measures being taken to save agricultural sector from its ill-effects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) As China has joined World Trade Organisation (WTO) only recently it is too early to predict the likely impact on Indian Agricultural Production and Marketing. However, *prima-facie*, it is felt that it will not have much impact as India and China have already been exchanging most favoured nation treatment and because the concessions had to be given unilaterally by China on entry to WTO and no reciprocal commitments were involved on the part of India or any other WTO Member.

Remunerative price for soyabean in A.P.

2081. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the share of Andhra Pradesh in the production of soyabean in the country during the last three years year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that soyabean farmers of the State are not getting remunerative prices for the produce; and

(c) what action Government have taken to provide remunerative prices to soyabean producers and to increase its production in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The share of Andhra Padesh in

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.